# THE DEVIL'S AN ASSE:

OR,

## The Policy of Hell made plain to the dwellers on Earth.

Being

A SERIOUS Reflection upon the late Inhumane Rebellious

# WARR.

Wherein is Laid Open the Folly as well as wickedneſſe of that horrid ſin of Rebellion.

By *T. B.*

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# THE DEVIL'S AN ASS:

OR,

Gentlemen, having heard of a seditious Libell, now lately cast abroad, I could not but remember the evill consequence of such things formerly, and therefore cast in my Mite to the Loyall Treasury, which, if prosperous by your acceptation, I shall be incouraged to proceed.

# THE DEVIL'S An ASSE.

HA my beloved, are you thereabouts with your bears? I thought the Devill had been a cunninger knave, than to think to play over an old Game, when the World is so sensible of that piece of Roguery. What! *Mazarin* and the *Scot*, with an infinite swarme of I know not what tatterdemallian vermin, and confused rabble of whining Sectaries! and fierce *John* ——— too, with his reverend beak, must be goosified once more, to save forsooth (when indeed their Aims were to destroy) our Capitoll. O rare Rogues! is there yet such impudent folly to be found in this so lately

Chastised

Chaſtiſed Nation? Can the Devill beſot theſe wretches ſo, as that they ſhould be inſenſible of ſo ſtupendous a Providence, as the reſtoring of our Soveraign, Lawes, and Liberties together; nay this Miraculous cure being wrought, when the Nation gaſped as it were for it's laſt breath, and that without the leaſt Force, might convince, (if poſſible) the Devill himſelf of folly, in indeavouring to croſs ſo cleare a Providence; and all men not abſolutely bewitched, and beſotted with Sciſmaticall, and Rebellious Incantions of Atheiſme, Irreligion, and plain fighting againſt God himſelfe, who ſhall not, not onely reſt ſatisfied, but rejoyce in this happy recovery of our Church and State, from Anarchy, Rebellion, and Confuſion, to a probable way of Unity, Peace, Concord, and conſequently all poſſible happineſſe. But I ſhall in great earneſt endeavour to ſhew the World by what meanes, honeſt, poore, ignorant people have been drawn in, and inſnared by the Devill and his Agents, to their own deſtruction; and as God is more wiſe, and more Powerfull than he, how that proverb hath been verified upon the infernall Father of Sectaries, and Hereticks, Give him rope enough, and he will hang himſelfe. By the permiſſion of the Almighty, and for our Triall, that Grand Maſter of Politicks hath played the higheſt game within theſe twenty yeares in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, that ever the World heard of; for he hath domineer'd Generally, and particularly over good and bad: over the Eſtates, Perſons, and ſometimes lives of the former, in the hearts, heads, and mindes of the latter: How many miſerable *Jobs* have we ſeen, who,

who, not onely loſt their children, cattell, and all outward comforts, but even wanted the liberty of a dunghill, and potſheard to ſcratch their ſores, and were not permitted ſo much as the air, only becauſe they breathed Loyalty, and fidelity.

But this was not his higheſt project. The World knowes it were impoſſible for the Devill to deceive any conſiderable part of men in his own likeneſs, or that any man ſhould be in love with Hell-torments, under their true notion and appearance. But the courſe he ever took to inſnare and catch men, was to ſugar over his baits, to put on the garb of Sanctity, and extraordinary zeal, when he would perſwade to Hereſie, and ever-fought againſt the Church with, and endeavoured to turn her own Weapons of Sanctity and patient ſuffering, againſt her own breaſt. But yet could never before bring the World in love with ſin, yea the greateſt of ſins, Rebellion, murther, Rapine, uſurpation, and what not unheard of inhumanities till theſe late times, which to demonſtrate fully, would require an indefatigable pen, and large volume, the ſubject is ſo large; however, I will ſay what I can within the narrow compaſs of a ſheet: and firſt to the meanes he uſed to bring this about.

1. It is to be underſtood, the Devill can work onely by naturall meanes, having attained no ſupernaturall excellency, what ever ignorant people ſuppoſe, and are fool'd into the belief of by that Father of lies. Now for the particulars, he who knowes any thing, cannot be ignorant that there were ſome abuſes in the Court of our late King of bleſſed memory as there ever were, are, and muſt be in all

Courts

*Courts* and *Concourſes* of people and power under Heaven, this weakeſt imaginable, did that ſpirit of darkneſs, joyning with the fitteſt opportunities, make the ſtrongeſt, pretenſe to raiſe the emulous ambition and avarice of thoſe he made his inſtruments to colour all the deteſtable, impudent, lying paſquills and ſatyricall libels thoſe Engines of Hell then caſt out againſt our *Court*, *Church* and *State*. I need not inſiſt upon the depraved nature of man, how credulous of any evill, nor of the common experience of the dire execution of thoſe paper-ſhot, but onely remind thoſe at the ſtern, to be carefull to cruſh ſuch ſcorpions in the ſhell, ſince 'tis plain, the ſame brood is now hatching.

The Ratsbane of Rebellion being thus laid in every corner of the Nation, yet wanted the full operation upon the ſpirits of the vulgar, till thoſe afterwards call'd *Non-conformiſts*, perſons ſome way diſappointed in their expected preferments, by the merits of better men, and thereby incenſed, became inveterate inveighers againſt all Authority, and by the ſtygian waters of their peſtiferous Lecture-Sermons ſo intoxicated the deluded people, that they who before lived in the enjoyments of peace, plenty and contentment in their ſtations, begin to think themſelves above their Neighbours in Sanctity, and preach the promiſe that *the Saints ſhould inherit the Earth*, and thought it grievous to be top't by their Lords, and the Prerogatives of the King and Peers.

3. When theſe *Kirk Dragons* had performed their parts with wonderfull dexterity, then *Lucifer* drawes out his ſtate Engineers, who now by the incouragement of a confuſed cry of rabble, diſpute, firſt privately,

vately, then publiquely, the priviledges of the people against the Prerogatives of the King, deny first one, and then all: and all this was honied over with the Title of *The Free born People of England*, which indeed proved so taking, that the Parliament generally began to think it a fine thing to be equall to, or above their Soveraign, and in fine, from one degree of infatuation to another were come to that, they raised Arms against his late Majesty, and having run on so far in rebellion, as to the cutting off many of the gallantest Persons in the Nation, and exhausting the Treasury and Kingdom indeed, by their rebellious Warre, the more active had no way left, but to maintain those wickednesses, they had perpetrated by attempting higher, and so proceeded to the murther of their onely too patient and good King. Then were they cock-sure, enjoyed the Nation by Conquest, and none were endured, but who could with hellish impudence slander and vilifie the sacred Person as well as Relations of our gracious Soveraign, concluding their Empire was as lasting as their spirits unlimited: but when these Vermin came to drink freely of the waters of prosperity, their Poyson workt so highly, they became obnoxious to all the World, and this bait of the Devill grew as useless, as odious, and at last Lucifer and his Instruments were forc't to quit their Dominion to God and his Anointed, to which God be prayse and glory, for ever and ever.

FINIS.

*Thus you see by a familiar instance the methods of iniquity, the meanes of the most accursed machinations of Hell, and the designs of that first of Rebels the Devill, to bring all men*

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*men into his own condition, as it is reported, to be naturall to those who are infected with the Plague, to reduce all men as far as they are able into their own miserable condition. Now that you may see the folly as well as misery of rebellion, let us trace it from the very first rise. Was not the Devill himself whom Rebels themselves wonder at for that Masterpiece of sin, the first President of Rebellion and Apostacy? Did not he lead the game to all the World? And who will not tremble to think of becoming a Proselyte to the Prince of torment? Consider the policy of your grand Master, who because he could not be content to continue a loyall subject in Heaven it self, is become a tormented Devill in the lowest Hell? And (to be short) you who snarl, libel, &c. against our gracious Soveraign, consider whether your case be any thing different from that proud rebellious Angel, who sleighted the Incarnate as you do the Anointed of God: but that, as his Creation, so his capacity, and consequently his sin and punishment, are and will be higher. But still his folly and yours, who in your capacities, might equally enjoy happiness, as it hath already in part, will more manifestly if you proceed, appear to be more than bestiall: which God forbid.*

# FINIS.